

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claim 8 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, and if rewritten to include all of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicants, however, believe that claim 1, the base claim of claim 8, is allowable over the cited references and, therefore, decline to so amend claim 8.

2.) Priority

The Examiner acknowledged the Applicants' claim of priority based on an application filed in Sweden on June 18, 1999, but stated that a certified copy of that application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b). Submitted herewith is a certified copy of Applicants' priority application.

3.) Objections to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings in Figures 2-7 as missing descriptive legends. The Applicants submit herewith proposed drawing corrections to Figures 2-7, adding descriptive legends to each element in those figures.

4.) Objections to the Specification

The Examiner objected to the abstract of the disclosure. A new abstract is submitted herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.72.

5.) Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner rejected claims 5 and 8 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention. The Applicants have amended claims 5 and 8 to clarify the ambiguities noted by the Examiner.

6.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 9 and 14 as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,070,187, issued to Subramaniam, *et al.* The Applicants traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 recites:

1. Method for auto-configuration of a new router, the new router being a part of an IP intranetwork, the IP intranetwork comprising routers interconnected via Point to Point links, said method comprising the steps of:

establishing a physical connection between the new router and an existing router within the intranetwork;

establishing a Point to Point link between the new router and the existing router, over the physical connection;

requesting and retrieving an IP address to make IP communication possible between the new router and the existing router over the Point to Point link;

automatically identifying the resources which are essential for retrieving configuration information for the new router;

automatically configuring the new router by means of the configuration information; and

starting a routing protocol to establish network connectivity between the new router and the rest of the intranetwork. (emphasis added)

Subramaniam describes a configuration process in which a specific process in a host is used to find a default gateway. In contrast, the Applicants' invention is characterized, in part, by the use of Point to Point links between routers, which obviates the need for a

default gateway. As described in Applicants' specification, and as those skilled in the art are familiar, a Point to Point link is a link established using the Point to Point Protocol (PPP).

The Examiner states that Subramaniam discloses "an apparatus for configuring network comprising the following features: as depicted in Fig. 3, regarding claim 1" The Examiner then recites each element of claim 1 and identifies a physical element found in Figure 3. The Examiner, however, makes no references to the Subramaniam specification to identify the particular functionalities recited in the elements of claim 1. Furthermore, a text search of the Subramaniam specification reveals that Subramaniam fails to disclose any use of Point to Point links, which are specifically recited in claim 1. Accordingly, Subramaniam fails to anticipate claim 1.

Whereas independent claim 9 includes limitations similar to those of claim 1, Subramaniam also fails to anticipate that claim. Furthermore, whereas claims 2, 4 and 6 are dependent from claim 1 and claim 14 is dependent from claim 9, and include the limitations of their respective base claims, those claims are also not anticipated by Subramaniam. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 9 and 14 as being anticipated by Subramaniam.

7.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner rejected claim 3 as being unpatentable over Subramaniam in view of Hirai (US 6,324,577); claim 5 as being unpatentable over Subramaniam in view of Hendel, *et al.* (US 6,014,380); claims 7, 12, 13, 17 and 18 as being unpatentable over

Subramaniam in view of Feltner, *et al.* (US 6,515,997); claims 10 and 16 as being unpatentable over Subramaniam in view of Shaffer, *et al.* (US 6,125,108); and claims 11 and 15 as being unpatentable over Subramaniam in view of Siltan, *et al.* (US 6,335,926). The Applicants traverse the rejections of claims 3, 5, 7, 10-13 and 15-18 as being obvious.

As established *supra*, Subramaniam fails to anticipate independent claims 1 and 9. Furthermore, the Examiner has failed to identify any teachings in Hirai, Hendel, Feltner, Shaffer or Siltan to cure the deficiencies of Subramaniam. Accordingly, claims 1 and 9 are not obvious over Subramaniam in view of Hirai, Hendel, Feltner, Shaffer or Siltan. Therefore, whereas claims 3, 5 and 7 are dependent from claim 1 and claims 10-13 and 15-18 are dependent from claim 9, and include the limitations of their respective base claims, those claims are also not obvious over Subramaniam in view of Hirai, Hendel, Feltner, Shaffer or Siltan. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 3, 5, 7, 10-13 and 15-18 as being obvious.

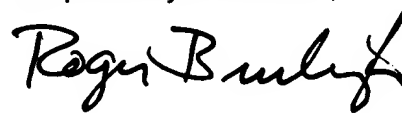
* * *

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-18.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



Roger S. Burleigh
Registration No. 40,542
Ericsson Patent Counsel

Ericsson Inc.
6300 Legacy Drive
M/S EVR-1-C11
Plano, TX 75024
Phone: 972-583-5799
Fax: 972-583-7864
roger.burleigh@ericsson.com